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The Secretary - 5

OLC 74-1065

16 May 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee staff, House Government Operations Committee, re: Committee hearings on 5 June 1974

1. In meeting today with William G. Phillips, Staff Director, Norman G. Cornish, Deputy Staff Director, L. James Kronfeld, Staff Counsel, and Max Stetner, Staff Consultant (GAO detail), Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee staff, House Government Operations Committee, they gave me a fairly definitive outline of the Committee's objectives in the hearing schedule for Wednesday, 5 June. They also agreed in principle that the Agency representative give the requested ten minute or so prepared statement in open session and then request executive session for questions and answers. It was indicated that it would be helpful if our witness would state in effect that because classified information may come up, or, answers to questions may require reference to classified information, that executive session would be desirable. It was also indicated that the Agency witness is presently scheduled to be the last witness to appear before the Committee on this subject.

2. The Committee objective is to update previous hearings of 1964 and to establish "what the pattern has been over the last decade" regarding use of polygraph by Government agencies and the use of more sophisticated equipment concerning psychological stress evaluation, voice analysis, and other technical systems. The Committee would like to determine whether the original Committee evaluations on the use of polygraphs, etc. are still applicable or are newer systems "even more susceptible to manipulation." They would seek to determine to what extent more use is being made by technical means for employment screening or plugging the leaks, etc. They are also interested in other uses by this Agency, such as the loan to the State Department and other loan requests or similar uses. They noted the question, "Was the loan to the State Department a unique transaction?" The Committee would appreciate such comparisons as are available between present and previous uses of tech means.

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3. As is seemed from the foregoing, the testimony desired by the Committee is a projection of the information furnished in the Agency's letter of 2 April 1974 responding to the Committee questionnaire.



Associate Legislative Counsel

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